

In SCOTLAND. 22
Being an Earnest Exhortation to an Holy Life.

Recommended to be left in Families.



Bought by G. P. Johnston

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By D. Wilson.



Printed by James Watson in Glasgow
on the North side of the Cross Street.

A Word to all Christian Families

IN SCOTLAND.

Being an Earnest Exhortation to a Holy

OR THE

Only Deliverer from Eternal Death and Destruction

Wherein is plainly laid down the great Duty
of speedy Repentance; with the wretched
of a Sinner, and the blessed state of a Saint.
Shewing how the one (after Death) will
cast forever into the dreadful Flames of Hell-
and the other will be received up into Heaven
to celebrate Eternal Hallelujahs to the Lord
Lords, who sitting at the Right hand of his Fa-
ther will shortly come to Judge the World.

Likewise some Pithy Arguments to persuade
Men to close with Christ.

Being very useful for every poor Sinner to
practise and make use of in these sinful, wicked
and backsliding Times.

*Isa. 55. 1. Ho, every one that thirsteth, drink of
the Waters of Life, and he that hath no Money,
come buy and eat freely.*

*Matt. 25. 34. Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit
the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation
of the World.*

By D. Wilson.

Edinburgh, Printed by James Watson in Craig-
Close, on the North-side of the Cross 1700

A

Word to all Christian Families :

BEING AN

Earnest Exhortation to a Holy Life, &c.

LUKE XIII. 5.

I tell you, nay; but except ye Repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

IN the first Verse of this Chapter, you have the sad piece of this News that was told Jesus, concerning the Galileans, whose Blood Pilate had mingled with their Sacrifices. ver. 2. you have our blessed Saviour's Answer to this News : Saith he unto them; Suppose ye that these Galileans were Sinners, above all the Galileans, because they suffer such things? I tell you nay: but except ye Repent, ye shall all likewise perish. And yet her, ver. 4. Or those eighteen upon whom the Tower of Siloe fell, and slew them; think you, that they be sinners above all men that dwell in Jerusalem? I tell you, nay: but except ye Repent, ye shall all likewise perish, This former part of the Chapter contains the Sermon of Repentance that was preached by our blessed Saviour.

Repentance is a pure Gospel Grace; it comes by Jesus Christ: He hath purchased by his blood, that repenting Sinners shall be saved,

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The Doctrine I shall raise from these Words

That it is a great Duty incumbent upon

Christians, to Repent, and turn to

Lord: Or, it doth highly concern a

people whom the Lord visiteth with

Judgement, to strive to turn to him.

Repentance, and Faith in Jesus Christ

Repentance & Conversion is the only way

Salvation. I need not stay to open the Text

you, and to prove it by Scripture. For if thou

heest a Man or Woman that doest believe

Word of God, then thou believest, that without

Repentance none can be saved, as the Text

has it. *But I say unto you, Except ye Repent, ye*

shall likewise perish. Well then, what sayest thou

Sinner? Dost thou believe, or no? Thou mayest

either confess that this is true; or say plainly

that you will not believe the Word of God: For

once you are come to that pass, there is but little

hope of you. Look to yourselves as well as you

can, for 'tis like you will not be long out of this

You would be ready to fly in the face of him that

give you the lye: And dare you give the lye to

God? If you will not believe the words of our

blessed Saviour, whose will you? And doth not the

Text say, *That except ye Repent, ye shall perish?* He

doth not say you may perish, but you shall; nay, there

is no doubt of it: Let God be True, & every Man

a Lyar: Christ hath spoken it, *Luke 10. 12.*

I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Sodom at

the day of Judgement, than it shall be for that People

Nation that believe not these Words of our Saviour

A Word to all Christian Families

Use 1. Is this a Truth, That Repentance is the only way to prevent the Judgments of God that hang over our heads, because of our Sin? Then first of all, I would entreat you, observe the cursed nature of this cursed thing called Sin; you see Sin must be repented of, or we shall all perish or we shall be damned: Sin will utterly destroy both our Bodies and Souls. I think it is one of the hardest things that is, to understand the deadly Poyson that is in Sin: Sin is that which the Lord hates. *The Soul that Sins shall surely die:* This was the old Law: But the Gospel of Christ saith, *Repent and forsake your Sins: Or, Repent and believe and you shall be saved.*

Use 2: Is Repentance the way and means to prevent a People or Nation from perishing? Then from hence you may learn the Excellency and the Usefulness of that Grace of Repentance. What an Omnipotent Grace is this? It is a Grace that can do any thing with God. This Grace of Repentance can redeem our mortgag'd blessings; it can make us a happy People, *Jer. 18, 19, 20: I have surely heard Ephraim boasting himself thus: Thou hast chastised me, and I was chastised, as a Bullock unaccustomed to the yoke: Turn thou me, and I shall be turned; for thou art my Lord my God. Surely after I was turned, I repented, and after I was instructed I smote upon my Thigh: I was ashamed, yea even confounded, because I did bear the reproach of my Youth. Ephraim my dear Son? Is he a pleasant Child? Since I speak against him, I do earnestly remember*

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him still: therefore my Bowels are turned for him, I will surely have Mercy upon him, saith the Lord. From hence you may observe, That penitent Sinners are exceeding precious in sight of the Lord; his Heart is turned toward them. Oh! what an excellent Priviledge hath a penitent Heart with God! My Beloved, can you live without such a Grace? Your Soul want it, your Families want it; and the Nation stands in need of it: The greatest want this day in *Scotland*, is a broken Heart.

Use 3. Is Repentance the only way to prevent Judgements? Then from hence gather, That when God either hath his Plagues upon a people, or continues threatening his Judgment against them, it is a sign that those People are very guilty of Impenitency. If God threaten thee, O *Scotland*, to give thee up to hardness of Heart, and blindness of Mind: Doth God lie at this Day? They say (O *Scotland*!) thou art an impenitent People at this day. O *Scotland*, this is my Charge against thee: You have been a stiff-necked People. O *Edinburgh*! how long shall the Lord wait upon thee, before thou wilt repent! What can you expect but that he will yet visit *Scotland* with his Judgment, that he be humbled and heartily repent us of our sins. 'Tis for Sin that the Nation mourns. O Swearing, Whoring, and Sabbath-breaking, Schism, and Disobedience to Magistrates. Day in *Edinburgh*! O you sinfull Generation, this your requiting of God for all his

...cies? Deut. 32. 6. Do ye thus requite the Lord
... O ye foolish and unwise! What say ye? Will you
... Repent or not? This is my Question which I
... have to ask you this Day, Will you Repent?
... Do not flatter your selves about Matters of so
... great concernment as your immortal Souls. Con-
... sider this, (O Sinners) if you will repent, then
... you may live happy in the Land of your Nativi-
... ty, and go to your Death Beds in Peace: But if
... you will not repent of your Sins; then, I say,
... you must (instead of Blessings) expect nothing
... but Curses.

It is plain that God is angry with you; for
... God would never have sent so many Judgements
... after one another. Once more: Will you re-
... pent, or will you not? If you will not, your Sins
... are at your own Doors. Do not think it is a hard
... Question, when I ask you to repent; but con-
... sider there are two places where there is no re-
... penting; the one is in the Grave, the other in
... Hell. It were a vain thing for me to go to the
... Gates of Hell, and cry to them, Repent; for
... the Day of Grace is past, and their Doom is
... passed upon them. I do verily think, that there
... is more sorrowing in Hell for Sin, than there is
... this Day in Scotland, but their Sorrow is not a
... sanctified sorrow. If the damned in Hell were
... delivered out of Hell, they would sin again; if
... they lived eternally, they would sin eternally.
... but I am not speaking to Men in Hell, but to
... you Sinners in Scotland.

A Word to all Christian Families.

1. I say unto you, Repent : Because Jesus Christ hath commanded you under great Penalties, if you do not. Consider a little (O Sinner) who 'tis that calls for Repentance : It is not but the great God; it is Jesus Christ; and doubtless Christ would never have pressed you to this Work, if it were not necessary. He saith unto you, *Repent*; and saith again, *If you do not, your Sins shall not be blotted out*. Woe be unto the Man or Woman that repenteth not, better were that he had never been born, that he had never seen the Light : The Parents that bring thee, they may Repent that ever thou wert born. It would grieve your Parents to see you carried to the Gallows to be hanged : And will not much more grieve them, to see you cast your Body and Soul, into everlasting Burnings, to be tormented with the Devil and his Angels for ever.

2. Repent, for Christ hath encouraged you with many precious Promises : He will heal your back-slidings, and love you freely; though your Sins be as Mountains, he will make them as Mole Hills; though as red as Scarlet, he will make them as white as Milk.

But some will object, and say, This is a hard work. What! shall we always go with Tears in our Eyes? What will God give us for our Repentance?

Ah, poor Sinner, fear not, do not question your Reward : For as sure as God is true, so thou shalt have Christ, Heaven, and Glory,

happy for ever. Sinners, methinks it should
make you to quake, to think how God will deal
with you at the great and dreadful day of Judg-
ment, when he shall say, 'Take him Devils,
and his hand and foot, and fling him into
everlasting burnings; where shall be weeping,
and wailing, and gnashing of Teeth. Oh, it is a
dreadful Sentence, to be adjudged to Everlasting
fire; and look for it, Sinner, if thou wilt not re-
pent, these are the Words that thou shalt hear
when I shall pronounce against thee, *Depart from me, I
know you not.* And thou may'st be sure (O Sinner)
if thou art not with Christ, thou must be with the
Devil, thou must be either in Heaven or Hell.
Repent, because the Lord hath long wait-
ed upon you: How long hath God stood at the
doors of your Hearts, wooing and beseeching
you to Repent? How long (O thou proud Man
or Woman,) hath God called unto thee? How
often hath he knocked at your hard Hearts?
Why would you not let him in. Oh, thou grey-
headed Sinner, God hath long waited on thee,
may be, ever since thou wast Fifteen or Sixteen
years of Age, to see if thou wouldest repent,
or 2. 4. Or despisest thou the Riches of his
Goodness, and Forbearance, and Long-suffer-
ing, not knowing that the Goodness of God
reproveth thee to Repentance? There is not a
cursing that thou hast from God, but it hath
written upon it, *Repent of thy Sins.* Wilt thou
think of this? when God puts the Bread into
thy Hands, he saith unto thee, Sinner, Take this
Bread,

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Bread, Eat, and Repent: And when God putteth
the Cup of Beer into thy Hands, he saith unto
thee, Sinner, take this Cup of Beer, and
repent: When thou risest in the Morning,
saith unto thee, Sinner, take this Suit of
Cloaths, put it on, and Repent: Every Message
that thou receivest from God, calls to thee
Repentance.

4. If you will Repent, and leave your Sins,
God will not be angry with you. My beloved
you have heard the Parable of the Prodigal
Son, who when he had spent all, he returned
home to his Father's House: So, my Beloved,
God is your Father, but you are Prodigals: the
Sin you have committed against him, is Prodi-
gality. But let me tell you, if you are willing
to come to God's Feet, he will take you
about the Neck: If you are willing to forgive
your sins, God is willing and ready to pardon
your Sins, though you have been a wicked,
bellious, and sinful People; yet if you will
turn to the Lord, he will turn to you.

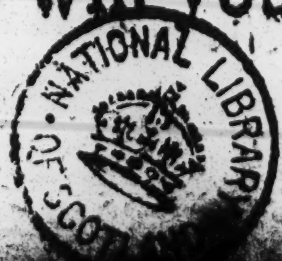
5. Repent, because the Lord sendeth
Messengers unto you, for to intreat you to
repent. Woe be unto you, therefore, if you
neglect this great Salvation. You know, that
was one main Reason why God took away
Prophets and Ministers from *Jerusalem*, because
they would not hearken to their Messengers,
as you may read, "*Mat: 23:37: 38: 39.* O
"*Jerusalem! Jerusalem!* thou that killest the
"*Prophets, & stonest them that were sent unto*"

A Word to all Christian Families.

How often would I have gathered thy Children together, even as a *Hen* gathereth her Chickens under her Wings, and ye would not? Behold, your Houses are left unto you desolat. For I say unto you, ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord. — may very well apply this to *Edinburgh*: Oh! How often would the Lord have gathered you, even as a *Hen* gathereth her Chickens? but he would not. What say you now, *Scotland*? *Edinburgh*! will you Repent? Or will you not? Will not all this that hath been said, prevail with you? Alas, I am heartily sorry, to see that nothing will prevail with you, but the flames of Hell! Oh, then you would say, Oh! we had but hearkened unto the voice of God's messengers, that were sent unto us, to call us to Repentance.

6. O *Scotland*! Repent to day, and turn to the Lord: O delay not an Hour longer, time is a precious Jewel, more worth than the whole World, and if Time be once lost, there is no regaining of it. O fall down upon your Knees, and bless God that you have yet the Light of the Gospel, and that you have time left to secure your Souls, and get an Interest in Jesus Christ.

First, Consider how dreadful it will be to you, when you come to die, if you do not Repent and turn to the Lord, while you are in health. O how will you cry out, when your
Hour



Hour of Death approaches, when you shall have all the things of the Earth fail you, and shall leave their leaves of you for ever. All your outward Enjoyments, Parts, Parentage, Birth, Education, Wealth, Crowns, Kingdoms, Palaces, Diamonds, Houses, Lands, Wife, Children, and Friends, when once your Breath is gone, these are gone, *Prov: 27. 24.* Hear now you that are given to pleasure, that feast yourselves in doing evil; you that put far from you the Day of the Lord; you that say, It is enough to Repent, when we come to die. Fools, How do you know whether God will give you Repentance then, or no?

Sirs, I beseech you, Repent, while it is yet led to Day; for you know not whether you shall live till to morrow.

O consider with a trembling Heart, much depends upon this Repenting, and coming to God; namely the gaining or losing of your dear and precious Soul, gaining or losing God's Favour, the Fruition of God, the Joy of Heaven, or the Torments or Sorrows of Hell depend upon it. Poor Souls, I pity you in my very Heart, to see how ignorant you are of so great Concernments; you Eat and Drink, Sleep, Lye, Sell, and get Gain in the World, but little do you mind to accumulate Heaven's Treasure, to get your sinking Souls safe a-shore. You consider not the evil day: Woe be unto him that is alone in Life, and alone in Death, who has no Christ to befriend him, or stand by him.

day, that cometh to lie down in his Grave, without Peace or Pardon, without hearty Confession, without Repenting of his Sins : And will rise again, and stand at the Bar of God's Justice, without an Advocat to plead for him. And *Lastly*, Try your Repentance by the word of God ; see whether it be true Repentance, or no ; for the Devil hath many ways : search your own Hearts, to see whether those Sins you formerly loved, be now hated and shunned by you.

Make ready for the other World ; think upon the other World, think upon Death and Judgment: Death, that King of Terrors, will, ere long, terminate your Days, and then all your Opportunities will be gone for ever. Let me ask you, as in the presence of the Great Judge of Quick and Dead, at whose Tribunal we must all shortly stand, and (giving an Account of your Deeds) be either received up into Heaven, or plunged into Hell. I have some queries to ask you.

First, Are not they in a very happy Condition that (Repenting) turns to the Lord with their whole Hearts ; living a Life of Grace, and preparing for Death, for fear of losing their own Souls, being in a hazard of losing Heaven ? *Rom. 8. 7. Ps. 37. 37.*

Secondly, Do you believe that Death will come, and that Sin, that cursed thing, will follow, and that the Case of all impenitent Sinners at the Hour of Death will be sad and terrible

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rible, and desperate? Let me say to all
there is not a Night you ly down in your
but you run a very great hazard, if Death
call, and you not ready, you must go, then
you are ruin'd to all eternity, though you
damned for ever, *Mat. 25. 10, 11, 12,*

Thirdly, Can you cheerfully entertain
thoughts of Death, and Judgement, all
hard hearted Sinners, that have not Repented
Suppose the dreadfull Judge should at this
stant send Death with the Names of Five
Six of you in a Writ, or Fore-head, and
should say, You, and you, this Man, and
Woman, must go along with me; I have
received a Command from the great and terrible
God, who hath the Power of Death
Hell, to bring you this Day, or Night, to
the Judgment Seat: I have often warned
by sending my Deputies this Ten or Twenty
Years. Every Grave, and Coffin you have
seen, was so many Imitations of my coming.
Now, saith Death, I am come, see my work.
this Dart must kill thy Body, and send thee
into Eternity, I command you this moment
bid adieu to this World, *Luk. 12. 19, 20.*
can you think of your dying, and the Worms
burning, the Trumpets sounding, the
Corps raising, and standing at the
God's Justice, and not fear and tremble
that have not Repented: you, Sons
Daughters of Pleasure, did you consider
horror and astonishment do you at the

which will inevitably come upon you, as Tra-
dition on a Woman with Child, you would not
unto God, depart.

Fourthly, And lastly, Oh, what a killing
and amazing sight will Christ's coming in the
clouds be, to all that either deny his coming, or
do not prepare for it by speed Repentance :
his Incarnation was terrible, *Mat. 2: 3*. His
crucifixion was more terrible, *Luk 13. 44, 45,*
47, 48. But his judging the World at the
great Day, will be most terrible, then shall the
tribes of the Earth mourn, *Mat: 24. 30*. And
they shall cry to the Rocks to fall on them,
Mat: 24. 6. 15. 16. When they shall see so many
thousands, and Millions of Men and Women
cast down to that burning Lake of Fire and
Sulphur, there to be tormented for ever: How
will they then cry, Oh that we had Repented,
they will howl for vexation of Spirit, and in the
darkness of their Souls wish that they had ne-
ver heard of a Christ; that they had been born
among Heathens, or never had a Being, or en-
joyed a Life of Pleasure upon Earth. How
will the wretched Sinner beat his Breast, pluck
out his Hair, tear his Bowels, crying when he is
of his Hopes, Oh that I had now no Soul, or that
my immortal Soul were mortal, that I might not
be tormented in these dreadful flames for ever:
Well, Sinner, you see what your Doom will be,
if you do not Repent ; but if you Repent un-
derly, and be the Servants of the Lord,
ye Saints and Mourners in Sion, lift up your
Heads

A Word to
Heads, and Hearts; for you belong to a
Place, and a better Country, viz. *Mount*
and to the City of the Living God, the
venly Jerusalem, and to the innumerable
pany of Angels the General Assembly
Church of the First-born, which are
in Heaven, and to God, the Judge of
to the Spirits of just Men made perfect
to Jesus the Mediator of the New Cove
and to the Blood of Sprinkling, that is
better things than that of *Abel*, Heb.
23, 24. And know that you are alway
within the hearing of those heavenly
Eternal Triumphs, and Hallelujahs of Sa
glorious Angels in your Fathers House
there shall be Fulness of Joy, and Peace
for evermore, Ps. 16. 11. As the Sinners
be afflicted with Everlasting Torment,
Saints shall be crowned with perpet
dems of Joy.

Consider what I have spoken, and
give you understanding in all things;
you, *Nay*: but except ye Repent, ye shall
wise perish.

F I N I S.